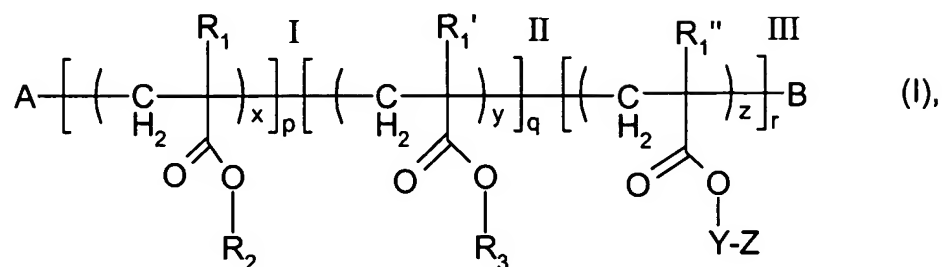


In the claims:

1. **(currently amended)**: A polymerisate of ~~the~~ formula (I):



Wherein

A and B represent polymer chain terminal groups;

R_1 , R_1' and R_1'' independently of one another represent hydrogen or C_1 - C_4 alkyl;

R_2 represents hydrogen or an ester group of higher polarity;

R_3 represents an ester group of lower polarity;

Y represents ~~the~~ a direct bond or a bivalent group;

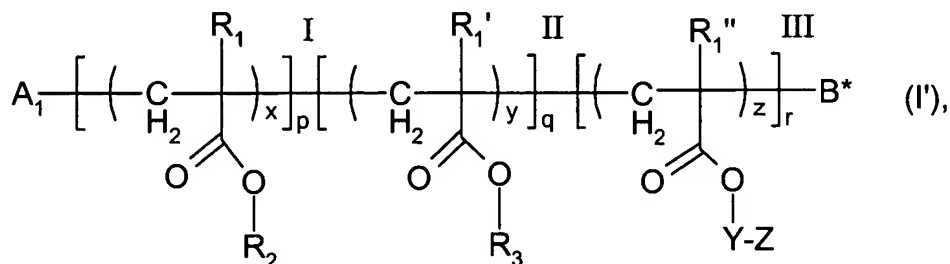
Z represents ~~the~~ a functionally effective group of an agent having light protecting properties;

The numerals I, II, III represent individual polymer blocks in any sequential order;

The indices p, q and r represent the number of polymer blocks I, II and III in the polymerisate, wherein one of the indices p and q independently of one another represents zero, one or a numeral greater than one and the other one represents one or a numeral greater than one; and r represents one or a numeral greater than one; and wherein

The indices x, y and z define the number of monomer units present in the individual polymer blocks I, II and III.

2. **(currently amended)**: A polymerisate according to claim 1 of ~~the~~ formula (I'):



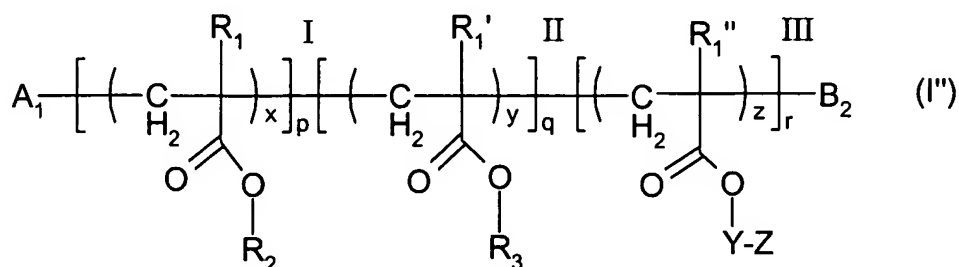
Wherein

A₁ represents the fragment of a polymerisation initiator;

B* represents a polymerisable, ethylenically unsaturated terminal group; and

R₁, R₁', R₁'', R₂, R₃ Y, Z, the numerals I, II and III and the indices p, q, r, x, y and z are as defined in claim 1.

3. **(currently amended):** A comb polymer according to claim 1 of ~~the~~ formula (I''):

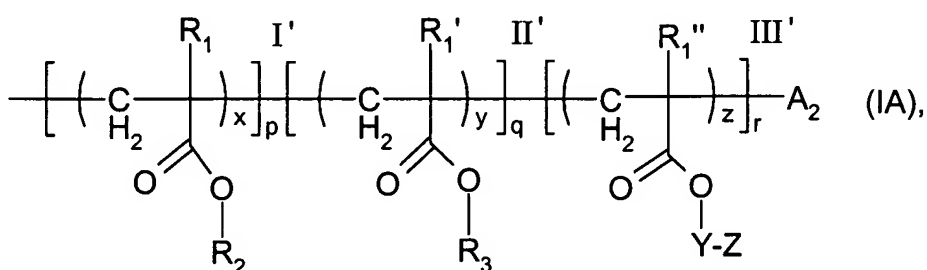


Wherein

A₁ represents the fragment of a polymerisation initiator;

R₁, R₁', R₁'', R₂, R₃ Y, Z, the numerals I, II and III and the indices p, q, r, x, y and z are as defined in claim 1; and

B₂ represents a polymer group of ~~the~~ partial formula (IA):



Wherein

A₂ represents a polymer chain terminal group;

R₁, R₁', R₁'', R₂, R₃ Y and Z are as defined in claim 1;

The numerals I, II and III represent individual polymer blocks in any sequential order;

The indices p, q and r represent the number of polymer blocks I, II and III in the polymerisate, wherein

One of the indices p, q and r independently of one another represents one or a numeral greater than one;

And the other ones represent zero, one or a numeral greater than one; and

The indices x, y and z define the number of monomer units present in the individual polymer blocks I, II and III.

4. **(currently amended):** A polymerisate (I) according to claim 1, wherein

A and B represent polymer chain terminal groups;

R₁, R₁' and R₁" independently of one another represent hydrogen or methyl;

R₂ represents an ester group selected from the group consisting of mono- or dihydroxy-C₂-C₄-alkyl, amino-C₂-C₁₈alkyl, ammonio-C₂-C₁₈alkyl, C₁-C₄alkylamino-C₂-C₁₈alkyl, di-C₁-C₄alkylamino-C₂-C₁₈alkyl, tri-C₁-C₄alkylammonio-C₂-C₁₈alkyl, hydroxy-C₂-C₄alkylamino-C₂-C₁₈alkyl, C₁-C₄alkyl-(hydroxy-C₂-C₄alkyl)amino-C₂-C₁₈alkyl, di-C₁-C₄alkyl-(hydroxy-C₂-C₄alkyl)ammonio-C₂-C₁₈alkyl, and C₁-C₄alkyl substituted by carboxy, sulpho or phosphono.

R₃ represents C₁-C₈alkyl, e.g. methyl, ethyl, isopropyl, n-butyl or 2-ethylhexyl;

Y represents ~~the~~ a direct bond or a bivalent group;

Z represents ~~the~~ a functionally effective group of an agent having light protecting properties;

The indices p and x represent zero;

And the numerals II and III and the indices q, r, y and z are as defined in claim 1.

5. **(currently amended):** A polymerisate (I) according to claim 1, wherein

A and B represent polymer chain terminal groups;

R₁, R₁' and R₁" independently of one another represent hydrogen or methyl;

R₂ represents ~~an ester group selected from the group consisting of~~ C₂-C₄alkyl substituted by amino, ammonio, C₁-C₄alkylamino, di-C₁-C₄alkylamino, tri-C₁-C₄alkylammonio, or di-C₁-C₄alkyl-2-hydroxyethylammonio;

R₃ represents C₁-C₈alkyl;

Y represents ~~the~~ a direct bond or a bivalent group;

Z represents ~~the~~ a functionally effective group of an agent having light protecting properties;

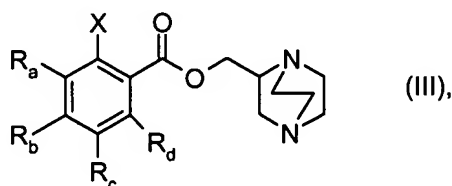
The indices p and x represent zero;

The indices q and r represent one;

The indices y and z represent numerals greater than one;

And the numerals II and III are as defined in claim 1.

6. **(original):** A polymerisate (I) according to claim 1, wherein the functionally effective group Z of an agent having light protecting properties is a structural moiety derived from light protecting agents selected from the group consisting of UV-light absorbers, radical scavengers, singlet oxygen quenchers, triplet quenchers, photo-stabilisers and superoxide-anion-quenchers.
7. **(currently amended):** A polymerisate (I) according to claim ~~4~~ 6, wherein the UV-light absorber moiety Z is a substituent derived from UV-absorbers selected from the group consisting of 2-(2-hydroxyphenyl)-1,3,5-triazines (HPT), 2-(2'-hydroxyphenyl)benzotriazoles (HBZ), 2-hydroxybenzophenones (HBP) and oxanilides (OA).
8. **(currently amended):** A compound of ~~the~~ formula (III):

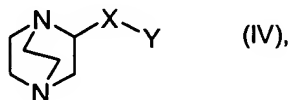


Wherein

X represents carboxy, sulpho or phosphono; and

R_a , R_b , R_c and R_d independently of one another represent hydrogen, halogen, C_1 - C_4 alkyl or C_1 - C_4 alkoxy.

9. **(currently amended):** A compound of ~~the~~ formula (IV):



Wherein

X represents a bivalent functional group selected from the group consisting of -C(=O)-NH-, -CH₂-O-, -O-, -NH- and -N(C₁-C₄alkyl)-; and

Y represents C₁-C₄alkyl, hydroxy-C₂-C₄alkyl, amino-C₂-C₄alkyl, acryloyl or methacryloyl.

10. **(original):** A composition comprising

- a) A composition of matter susceptible to degradation induced by light, heat or oxidation; and
- b) The polymerisate (I), wherein A, B, R₁, R₁', R₁", R₂, R₃, Y, Z, the numerals I, II and III and the indices p, q, r, x, y and z are as defined in claim 1.

11. **(original):** A pigment composition comprising

- a') 0.1–99.9% by weight dispersible organic or inorganic pigment particles; and
- b') 0.1–99.9% by weight of a polymerisate (I), wherein A, B, R₁, R₁', R₂", R₂, R₃, Y, Z, the numerals I, II and III and the indices p, q, r, x, y and z are as defined in claim 1.

12. **(original):** A composition according to claim 11, which additionally contains additives selected from the group consisting of surfactants, light stabilisers, UV-absorbers, anti-foaming agents, dispersion stabilisers, dyes, plasticisers, thixotropic agents, drying catalysts, anti-skinning agents and levelling agents.

13. **(original):** A pigment dispersion comprising

- a") Dispersed organic or inorganic pigment particles; and
- b") A dispersing agent consisting of at least one polymerisate (I), wherein A, B, R₁, R₁', R₁", R₂, R₃, Y, Z, the numerals I, II and III and the indices p, q, r, x, y and z are as defined in claim 1;
And a carrier liquid comprising water, organic solvents and mixtures thereof.

14. **(currently amended):** ~~Use of the pigment dispersion according to claim 13 for preparing ink~~ Ink compositions or colour filters comprising a pigment dispersion according to claim 13.

15. **(currently amended):** ~~Use of the pigment dispersion according to claim 13 for preparing coating~~ Coating compositions, prints, images, inks, lacquers, pigmented plastics, adhesives, casting resins, filled composites, glass fibre reinforced composites, laminates [[,]] or cement based construction materials like plaster and tile adhesives comprising a pigment dispersion according to claim 13.